

# FAVORABLE FROM OLD WORLD

## Parsifal Battle Shakes Europe's Musical Peace

Three Countries Involved in Controversy as to Whether or Not Opera Shall Be Produced in January.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Berlin, Dec. 7.—The war in the Balkans is nothing compared to the fearful "Parsifal" conflict that is undermining the musical peace of Europe. Three countries are involved in the approaching Wagnerian conflagration, including the classic reputations of three operatic managers, who want to be first in producing the French version of the great Bayreuth festival tone drama.

First in the race is M. Gumbourg, of the Monte Carlo Grand Opera House, who seems determined to produce "Parsifal" in the face of Mme. Cosima Wagner's strenuous objections to the benefit of his clientele of international nomads. The date set for the production, which is to kindle the flames of war is January 23 next. The term of protection, placed at thirty years by the Wagner family, does not expire until January, 1914, according to the protection which has just been published by a representative of the Wagner family.

Asks Public to Stay Away.

This official protestation is as follows: "The German press publishes a report that Richard Wagner's 'Parsifal' is to be produced at Monte Carlo this winter. As the legal representative of the Wagner family I give notice to all concerned that permission for the production has not been and will not be given. Furthermore, that all usurpations will be prosecuted, and the generally fair-minded public should manifest its disavowal to further such enterprises by staying away from the Monte Carlo performance, in case it should be produced, notwithstanding this protest."

The German press supports the protest and criticizes the enterprising M. Gumbourg for his lack of artistic taste in presenting a masterpiece to "such a motley crowd of loafing aristocrats, American millionaires, international crooks, and diamond-laden women of the half world."

The Italian critics agree that "Parsifal" should be let loose upon humanity as early as January 1, 1912, irrespective of the Wagnerian dictum, while France, under the French protectorate, should listen to common sense and give Paris the first chance.

M. Gumbourg Determined.

But these objections are stumbling blocks over which pedants fall and great minds walk unmolested. And M. Gumbourg is a great mind, judging from the note which he sent for publication in America and which says:

"The world is entitled to 'Parsifal' and I shall produce it in Monte Carlo, cost what it may."

M. Gumbourg does not go into detail. He might have added he will arrange an interesting little roulette game between the acts or a promenade to a lobster palace across the way where painted smiles linger over sparkling wines.

Or will Monaco follow the example of Montenegro and declare war? If Monaco persists in its belated spirit, Herr Kuching, who represents the Wagner heirs in Paris, will give sanguinary battle in comparison to the storming of the Schottland fortifications will look like 20 cents.

In the meanwhile, some of the serious German critics view with artistic apprehension the responsibility of a "Parsifal" production in Paris. M. Mousser, director of the French National Academy of Music, has some trepidation, according to the Paris papers, but being a good Wagnerian, it is expected he will not tolerate any serious deviations from the original and only "Parsifal."

Lord Roberts Sounds Warning

In Manchester Speech British Commander Calls on Young Men to Arm.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 7.—A part of Lord Roberts' recent speech at Manchester, which has elicited floods of criticism and praise, is given here:

"Now, just as in 1866 and 1870, war will take place the instant the German forces for land and sea are, by their superiority at every point, a certain of victory as anything in human calculation can be made certain. Germany strikes when Germany's hour has struck. That is the time honored policy of her foreign office. It is her policy at the present hour."

"We may stand still, Germany always advances, and the line along which she is moving is now almost manifest. It is toward a complete supremacy by land and sea."

"What, then, is my plan, and what is my ultimate counsel to the nation and the message to my countrymen at this solemn hour? It is, 'arm and prepare to fight yourselves like men for the time of your peril.'"

"As a European power, as a continental power, we do not exist for war. Our army as a brilliant factor in European politics is almost a negligible quantity. The empire is at all times practically defenseless beyond its first line. Such an empire invites war. Its assumed security amid the armaments of Europe, and now of Asia, is an illusion and a provocation. The territorial force is now an acknowledged failure—a failure in discipline, a failure in numbers, a failure in equipment, a failure in energy. Unless it is immediately reformed, the territorial force is not in favor of compulsion."

"I have commanded your armies in person and I ask you, the young men of this city and of this nation, that your enfranchisement is not complete until you have become soldiers as well as citizens, prepared to attest your manhood on the battlefield as well as at the election."

NEW GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO LONDON GIVES HIS VIEWS ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 7.—Prince Karl Max Lichnowsky, the Kaiser's intimate friend, who has been appointed German ambassador to London, in succession to the late Baron Marcell von Bieberstein, is the head of an old Catholic Silesian family that was founded in 1611.

He was born in 1860 and married in 1884 to Matilda, Countess von Arcu-Zinzendorf.

He is a well-known sportsman, with magnificent estates at Kuchelns and Graz. Hunting and shooting are his favorite recreations, and he speaks English fluently.

The name is pronounced Lichnowsky, with the ch soft.

The Deutsche Review of October, 1908, contained an article by the new ambassador, under the title, "Are We Drifting Into War with Great Britain?"

"Germany's hopes of future growth lie," he wrote, "in exactly the same directions as the present and future spheres of activity of Great Britain."

He formulated them as being: Maritime supremacy, trade supremacy, and African colonization.

LADY SHACKLETON PROUD MOTHER OF THREE CHILDREN, ALL EMBRYO SCIENTISTS

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 7.—Lady Ernest Shackleton, who before her marriage in 1904 was known as "the beautiful Miss Dorman," is the proud mother of three handsome children, two of whom promise to emulate the feats of their famous father in the realms of research.

Raymond, the eldest boy, is never happier than when engrossed with subjects connected with the sea, while his sister, Evelyn, is his enthusiastic companion in his pole-hunting trips.

Since Sir Ernest Shackleton became world-famous by his efforts to reach the south pole, Lady Shackleton's time has been occupied in acting as hostess to thousands of scientists and notables with whom she is brought in contact. As she is devoted to her husband and greatly interested in his scientific work, it has been a labor of love.

REVENGE OF PHOTOGRAPHER

Paris Picture of Late Husband in Window to Annoy Woman.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 7.—A widow asked the Willesden magistrate if he could order a photographer to remove from his window an enlargement of a photograph of her late husband. Her daughter ordered the photograph, but as it was not a good one she refused to pay for it. The photographer, to annoy her, placed it in his window. She could not go out without seeing it, and was greatly distressed in consequence.

The magistrate said: "We cannot make an order for the photographer to remove the photograph, but we will send an officer to ask him to take it out of his window. Your feelings should not be harmed in this way."

THOMAS R. WINANS TAKES PRIZE FOR SIGNING BIG NOTES FOR LITTLE MONEY

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Paris, Dec. 7.—Thomas Ross Winans, now of Malaga, Spain, recently of Paris, and formerly of Baltimore, brother-in-law of the Prince de Bearn, and the Maharajah of Kapurthala, nephew of James McNeill Whistler, or of Walter Winans, all-around sportsman and son of the late multimillionaire who owned vast estates in Maryland, has broken all records as the signer of the largest notes for the smallest considerations.

In Paris alone he has signed notes to the tune of \$400,000, and for this he received only a few thousand. Did he need an automobile worth \$5,000 he would sign a note for \$25,000. A signature for \$200,000 of which he received \$20,000 was an everyday transaction. He is known to have offered notes for \$200,000 to New York and Paris bankers, provided the latter would advance him \$25,000.

PRIME MOVERS IN GORGEOUS BALL.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 7.—A gorgeous Arabian Nights ball at the London Opera House, organized principally by the Duchess of Sutherland, will signal the first week of the new year. Some marvelous gowns and a great display of jewels will be seen at this function. The Duchess of Westminster, who has been assisting the Duchess of Sutherland with the arrangements, has ordered for the occasion an Oriental costume with the family jewels.

A number of Americans, including Mrs. Robert Grosvenor, will take part in the "fairy tale" procession, which will be a midnight feature of the ball.

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They were discovered not long ago by the well known French geologist, Dr. Lalanne, while directing excavations in the Department of Dordogne. A workman stole one of them and sold it to a German physician, Dr. Vernon, for \$2,000. Through him the statuette found its way into the Berlin Prehistoric Museum, where it is at present.

Dr. Lalanne, finding the most famous discovery of his life had been stolen, informed the police who traced it to the Berlin museum and put their informant's hands on the minister for foreign affairs.

It is practically certain that Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg will give ample satisfaction to M. Poincaré and that the statuette will be returned to France.

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In 1907, there was a persistent rumor that Sir and Mrs. Drexel determined to enter a convent, but the story originated in a joking remark made by her to a friend. She was a recognized beauty of the London season that year, attended several royal functions and was introduced to the late King Edward on her father's yacht, Margarita, at the Cowes regatta.

Behind the celebration is the sterling fact that Edward is the first embassy baby ever born here. At least Viscountess Maidstone, who took part in the celebration, and whose memory of the embassy comes more than half a century, cannot recall any such similar event.

When the baby was born a certain official formality had to be preserved to prevent his being a Frenchman. In other words, he had to be inscribed at the embassy, which is, of course, American territory. The shattering of ceremonies on this occasion was met by Mrs. Mott, the military attaché, who has the reputation of being the most fashionable bachelor in Paris. He was also sustained by Secretary Bliss and Naval Attaché Hough.

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King and Queen Include Sewell Collins' Play in Command.

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J. M. Barrie's play, "Romance," completed the programme, which was given in the ballroom at Sandringham. The audience included the King and Queen, Queen Alexandra, Princesses Marie and Victoria, besides court functionaries of high degree, tenors, and soloists.

A famous lighthouse in England has been closed, and the light extinguished after 220 years continuous service.

MAKING HATPINS TO SUIT HATS

London Stores Have Pins of Exact Length—Prove Boon to People in Street.

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Until now makers of hatpins have recognized but two lengths of pins, the menacing nine-inch weapon, which came in several seasons ago with the enormous "Merry Widow" headgear, and the six-inch variety suitable for small hats of the toque order. When millinery fashions have between these two extremes, the projecting hatpins become a serious menace to public safety.

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